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ABSTRACT

This videotape highlights the extent to which school buildings are deteriorating in America and the problems this causes for teaching and learning, describes the Energy Smart School campaign, and details the factors needed in building an Energy Smart School. To build schools that last and to recoup some of the building expense, it suggests designing schools that are more energy efficient. Energy efficient strategies are detailed under the following energy saving categories: building envelope features; renewable energy sources; and indoor air quality. Several schools are highlighted for their energy savings features. The videotape shows how a California school successfully addressed its Urban Heat Island problem; a new elementary school in New Hampshire shows how it improved its poor indoor air quality, and a Massachusetts school improved its lighting which was not only cost effective but also helped meet the learning needs of the students. Also, how design has helped a renovated school become a center of the community is discussed. Available resources for helping to design Energy Smart Schools and schools that are community centers are provided. (GR)

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